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THE STUDY
SACRAMENTO 2-0800

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Rabbi Norman Lamm
131 West 86th Street
New York, N. Y. 10024

My dear Norman:

I received your notice about the Mid-Manhattan Rabbi's meeting for April 6th. I will try to attend.

I do, however, want to get something off my chest. The Eruv is either a valid instrument or it is invalid. If it is valid then we ought to proclaim it without fear and without hesitation. If it is invalid then we ought to act accordingly.

I find it extremely embarrassing to take advantage of the Eruv and to tell others to do the same. All kinds of questions are asked about other rabbis not cooperating. Furthermore, even the rabbis who were helpful and instrumental in making the Eruv possible indicate by their silence either their timidity or their reluctance.

I, therefore, think that it is highly impractical to talk about a fund of any size for the establishment and financing of the supervision of the Eruv. There is a more basic question involved. Are we or are we not in favor of it and are we prepared to act in accordance with our opinion?

I have always been cooperative in this as well as in other matters. This time I am going to abstain from participation in the subject of the Eruv until others make up their minds.

Very cordially yours,

Joseph H. Lookstein

JHL/twj